

preciably during this period of 115 years, but also the magnitude of the earth's magnetic dipole and quadrupole. The former seems to be decreasing while the latter increases.

On Wednesday and Friday afternoons round table discussions on problems affecting the improvement of physics teaching were held and a number of papers were read. The former was presided over by Professor Salvador Vázquez of the University of Querétaro, and the latter by Professor Salvador Mosqueira of the University of Mexico and Secretary of the Society. The latter made an interesting proposal to eliminate completely the expression "kilogram force" from the teaching of elementary mechanics and substitute for it the word "kilopond". The proposal was referred to a special committee on nomenclature and terminology and no action was taken, but the Society went on record as being in favor of using the absolute meter-kilogram-second system of units in elementary mechanics courses.

At the closing plenary meeting on Saturday morning the members of the Society voted to establish a new Division of Geophysics, a Division of Chemical Physics, and a special division for secondary and high school teachers of physics. About thirty new members were taken into the Society and three representatives of the Society on the Mexican committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics were appointed.

President and Mrs. Díaz graciously offered a luncheon at their home for about 150 members of the Society and guests on Wednesday, and Governor and Mrs. Mondragón, together with President and Mrs. Díaz, were hosts at a dance in honor of members, their families and guests, about 200 in all, at the Casino on Saturday evening. The Society's banquet took place in Tequisquiapan, a watering resort some 70 km from Querétaro, on Thursday with about 100 people in attendance. No scientific or other meetings were scheduled on that day, so that members would have ample opportunity for informal discussions. All these social functions were deeply enjoyed and much appreciated.

Manuel Sandoval Vallarta

Instituto Nacional de la Investigacion Cientifica

High Polymer Physics

APS Division Meeting in Columbus

The Division of High-Polymer Physics of the American Physical Society held its tenth meeting March 20, 21, and 22, 1952 at the Ohio State University, in conjunction with the Columbus Meeting of the parent society.

One of the invited papers presented at the opening general session of the Society, by E. Guth on "Polymer Research as a Branch of Solid State Physics", and a later session of invited papers by R. Smoluchowski, C. G. Shull, and W. A. Weyl, dealing with the structure of matter in the solid state, served to link our divisional program with that of the Division of Solid-State Physics, also assembled at Columbus. In addition

to these, our program included five other excellent invited papers, dealing with such varied subjects as light scattering by colloidal solutions of spheres, small-angle x-ray scattering, infrared analysis of high-polymer structure, crystallization in polymers, and the viscosity of concentrated macromolecular solutions.

Most of the twenty-four shorter contributed papers dealt with studies of the viscoelastic behavior of polymers. Together they constituted a valuable summary of the present state of knowledge in this difficult but important field. A few contributions were concerned with polymer structure and the interpretation of properties of polymer solutions in terms of molecular structure, shape, and size.

The high calibre of the program was largely a result of the efforts of the Program Committee, consisting of R. Buchdahl (Chairman), G. B. B. M. Sutherland, E. Guth, and M. L. Dannis. The officers of the Division wish to thank this committee and also the Ohio State University, and its Physics Department, for providing the facilities for the meeting and otherwise contributing greatly to its success.

The next meeting of the Division is tentatively scheduled for next March, again in conjunction with the meeting of the parent society, wherever that may be.

Maurice L. Huggins

Eastman Kodak Company

AAPT Summer Meeting

At Iowa City this Month

The American Association of Physics Teachers will hold its 1952 summer meeting on the campus of the University of Iowa at Iowa City from June 11 to 14 in joint session with the 14th Annual Colloquium of College Physicists and with the Associated June Lectures held under the sponsorship of Research Corporation. The technical program of the AAPT will include a total of twenty-nine contributed papers, invited papers by V. F. Swaim of the Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station (The Raydist System) and S. C. Brown of MIT (A Survey of General Physics Laboratories in the United States), and a session in which movies of magnetic domains will be shown by R. M. Bozorth of Bell Labs. The program of the Colloquium will include lectures by Dr. Bozorth (Researches in Magnetism), W. L. Whitson of Johns Hopkins (Operations Research), H. K. Schilling of Pennsylvania State College (Edge Tones and Whistles), and H. B. Peacock of Geophysical Service, Inc. (Recent Development in Geophysical Exploration). A demonstration experiment round table discussion is also scheduled, and there will be an exhibit of new devices for experimental and non-experimental teaching. The June Lectures will consist of four lectures by George E. Uhlenbeck of the University of Michigan, who will speak Friday afternoon on the so-called elementary particles, and on Saturday morning will discuss some famous unsolved problems in statistical physics. The AAPT Program Committee

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Rochester Conference

Optical Methods in Industry

On June 18, 19, and 20 the Institute of Optics of the University of Rochester is sponsoring a conference on the use of optical methods of research, inspection, and control in industry. The morning sessions will be devoted to invited papers surveying (by industries) the general problems and possible needs of optical methods. The tentative schedule for morning sessions will include steel, automotive, and oil industries on Wednesday, June 18; glass, textile, paper, and chemical industries on Thursday, June 19; and lighting, television, and electrical industries on Friday, June 20. In the afternoons there will be a series of round table discussions, each of which will be concerned with specified subjects of interest to persons in both optical and non-optical fields. The subject classification and sessions for round table discussions are tentatively as follows:

Wednesday—emission spectroscopy, absorption spectroscopy, mechanical gaging and measurements, technical photography.

Thursday—absorption spectroscopy, optical materials, photometry and color measurement, refractometry and microscopy.

Friday—photoelectric applications, radiometry and pyrometry, technical photography and periscopic, telescopic, and projection instrumentation.

Powder Metallurgy

International Seminar in Austria

Paul Schwarzkopf, President of the American Electro Metal Corporation, Yonkers, New York, and owner of the Metallwerk Plansee, Reutte, Tyrol, has announced that the First Plansee Seminar "De re metallica" will take place on June 22-26, 1952, in Reutte. The Seminar is under the auspices of the U. S. High Commissioner for Austria, Walter J. Donnelly; the Austrian Minister of Education, Ernst Kolb; the Rector of the University of Innsbruck, Eduard Reut Nicolussi; and representatives of the Tyrolean government. The tentative program includes lectures on various aspects of powder metallurgy by the following American scientists: G. J. Comstock, F. Clark, H. H. Hausner, W. J. Kroll, J. T. Norton, and F. Lenel.

Testing Materials

ASTM's Fiftieth Anniversary

The 50th Anniversary Meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials is to be held in New York City from June 23 to 27 with headquarters at the Hotels Statler and New Yorker. Thirty technical sessions, to accommodate the large number of technical papers on